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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ikeda et al.

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Serial No.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants through counsel herewith submit copies of the publications as set forth in the attached form PTO-1449 as follows:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>PATENT NO.</u>	<u>PATENTEE</u>	<u>ISSUE DATE</u>
5,732,055	Masaki et al.	Mar. 24, 1998
6,067,284	Ikeda et al.	May 23, 2000
6,115,338	Masaki et al.	Sep. 5, 2000

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>DOCUMENT NO.</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>PUBLICATION DATE</u>
11-16251	Japan	Jan. 22, 1999
9-293259	Japan	Nov. 11, 1997

11-73669	Japan	Mar. 16, 1999
2000-182292	Japan	Jun. 30, 2000
11-144252	Japan	May 28, 1999
2000-251257	Japan	Sep. 14, 2000
2000-200435	Japan	Jul. 18, 2000
2000-187855	Japan	Jul. 4, 2000

Japanese Patent Application 2000-187855 corresponds to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 372,379, filed August 11, 1999.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above-listed references in the examination of this application and list these references of record in the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)			Attorney Docket No.: 0941.66108		Serial No.:	
			Applicant: Ikeda et al.			
			Filing Date: 1-15-02		Group:	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	5,732,055	Mar. 24, 1998	Masaki et al.	369	54	Dec. 4, 1996
	6,067,284	May 23, 2000	Ikeda et al.	369	116	Oct. 30, 1997
	6,115,338	Sep. 5, 2000	Masaki et al.	369	54	Apr. 29, 1998
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation
						Yes
	11-16251	Jan. 22, 1999	Japan			Abs.
	9-293259	Nov. 11, 1997	Japan			Abs.
	11-73669	Mar. 16, 1999	Japan			Abs.
	2000-182292	Jun. 30, 2000	Japan			Abs.
	11-144252	May 28, 1999	Japan			Abs.
	2000-251257	Sep. 14, 2000	Japan			Abs.
	2000-200435	Jul. 18, 2000	Japan			Abs.
	2000-187855	Jul. 4, 2000	Japan			Abs.
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
Examiner		Date Considered				
*Examiner:		Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.				

